Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, April marks the 37th anniversary of the passage of the Federal Fair Housing Law; and,

Whereas, The opening ceremony to honor this occasion will be held Friday, April 1, 2005, when this year's theme, "Fostering Secure & Diverse Communities," will be introduced; and,

Whereas, Communities throughout our nation have focused more than ever on security in this post-9-11 era, and despite heightened levels of scrutiny in all endeavors throughout our day, all nationalities, all ethnic groups, all bodies of faith must continue to feel welcome; and,

Whereas, America remains the land of opportunity for a culturally diverse citizenry – opportunity in all facets of life, especially when it involves access to decent, safe and affordable housing; and,

Whereas, Fair housing for all our citizens is a basic human right that must be preserved and protected; and,

Whereas, The state of South Dakota welcomes this opportunity to reaffirm our commitment to provide equal housing to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin; and,

Whereas, I urge all citizens to abide by the Federal Fair Housing Law and to acknowledge the needs of all our citizens to be afforded housing opportunities free from all discrimination:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim the month of April 2005 as

FAIR HOUSING MONTH

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Seventh Day of March in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Five.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State